

**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this preliminary amendment prior to examination on the merits. By this preliminary amendment, Applicant is canceling claims 11-14, and 17-18 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 6-10, and 15-16 have been amended. New claims 22, 23, and 24 have been added. No new matter has been added.

**CONCLUSION**

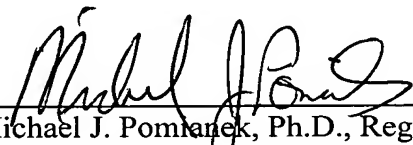
A favorable first Office Action is respectfully requested.

If, for any reason, the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conversation with Applicants' representative would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 646-8000.

Please charge any fee or fee deficiency occasioned by this amendment to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Michael J. Pomianek, Ph.D., Reg. No. 46,190  
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206  
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

Docket No.: M1100.70002US00  
Date: April 21, 2005  
**xNDDx**  
890263